

EXPORT HELPDESK



for developing countries

User Guide

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/>



European Commission

External Trade



User Guide

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Disclaimer

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October 2006

Welcome

from Commissioner
Peter Mandelson



*Peter Mandelson,
Commissioner
for External Trade*

Dear Visitor,

As European Commissioner for Trade, I welcome you to the Export Helpdesk for developing countries (EH).

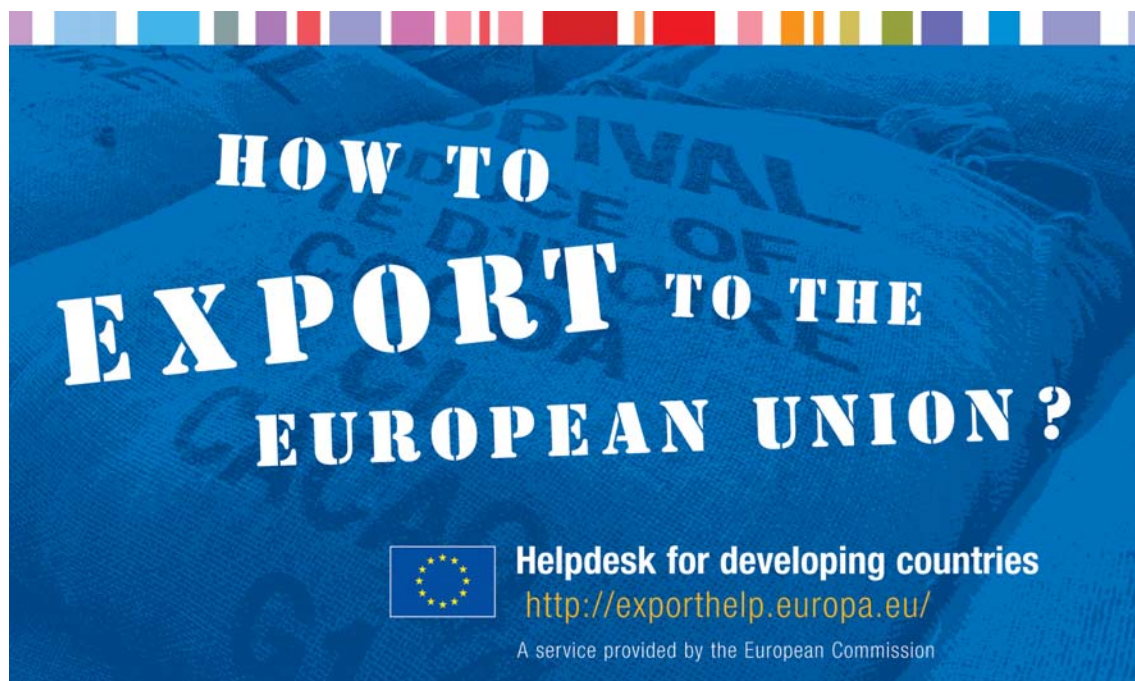
A key element in our policy is to help developing countries achieve higher economic growth and welfare through their trade. In addition to formal market access rights granted to developing countries, new practical tools for trade are needed in order to help developing country exporters profit from these new trade opportunities.

It is with this objective firmly in mind that the European Commission decided to create the EH, a free on-line service providing exporters in developing countries with relevant information and assistance in taking better advantage of the existing and future market access concessions offered by the EU.

It is a clear demonstration of the EU's determination to help developing countries in their efforts to integrate further into the global economy. They deserve a fair chance to compete in the EU market, and the EH is designed to do just that: a series of practical measures to help developing country exporters benefit properly from the EU's preferential trade programmes.

I hope that this guide will further assist you in making the most of the market access opportunities offered by the EU.

The Export Helpdesk brochure is available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish at the following website: <http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/123139.htm>

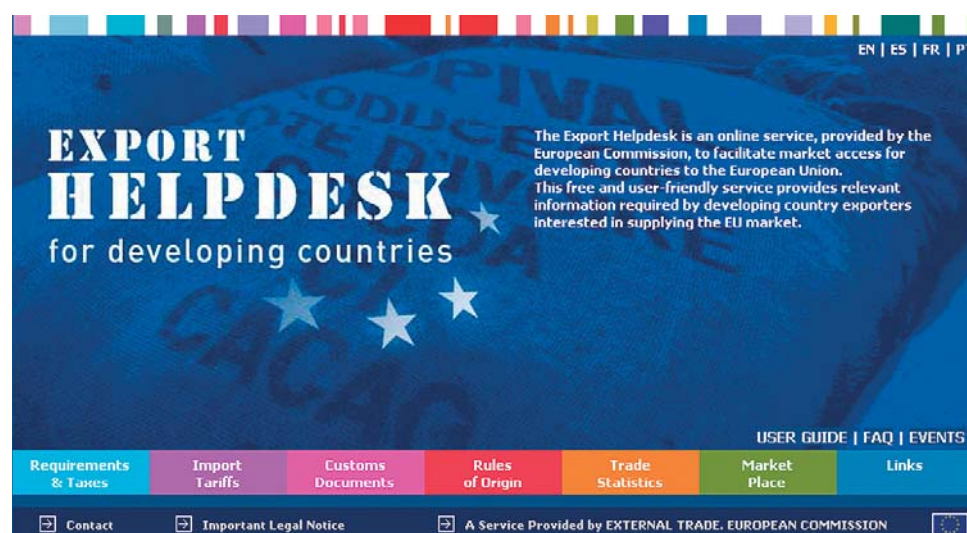


User guide

WHAT IS THE EXPORT HELPDESK FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

The Export Helpdesk is an online service, provided by the European Commission, to facilitate market access for developing countries to the European Union. It can be found at the following web address:

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu>



This free and user friendly on line service for exporters, importers, trade associations and governments, provides:

- Information on EU and Member States' import requirements as well as internal taxes applicable to products;
- Information on EU preferential import regimes benefiting developing countries;
- Trade data for the EU and its individual Member States;
- A market place where exporters in developing countries can establish contacts with importers from the EU;
- Links to other authorities and international organisations involved in trade operations and trade promotion;
- The possibility to lodge detailed information requests about real-life situations encountered by exporters.



HOW DOES THE EXPORT HELPDESK ASSIST EXPORTERS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

- To obtain information about EU and Member States' import requirements as well as internal taxes, go to the **Requirements and Taxes** section.
- To take maximum advantage of the EU's preferential trade regimes available for developing countries, go to the **Import Tariffs, Customs Documents** and **Rules of Origin** sections.
- To establish whether or not a particular EU market is worth targeting, go to the **Trade Statistics** section.
- To find trading partners and contacts within the EU, go to the **Market Place** and **Links** sections.
- To obtain detailed information about real-life situations encountered by exporters, go to the **Contact** section.

The **Requirements and Taxes** section enables users to get access to detailed information on EU and Member States' import requirements as well as internal taxes applicable to products.

To use the **Requirements and Taxes** section, please follow the steps below:

STEP 1

Go to the Requirements and Taxes Input Form

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/taxes/MSServlet>

STEP 2

Enter a product code

i) IF YOU KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE:

- Enter the product code in the **product code** box (note that you can choose to enter the relevant code in 2, 4, 6 or 8 digits).
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

ii) IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE

OPTION A

- Click on the 'Search' link (on the right side of the product code box). Enter your product description and click the **Search** button.
- If the product description is in the catalogue, a **Search Results** page will open with a list of products and their respective codes.
- On the **Search Results** page click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product. A **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

If you could not find the product code using **OPTION A**, you may try **OPTION B**

OPTION B

- Click on the **Browse** link on the **Requirements and Taxes Input Form** and the **Chapter List** page will open.

REQUIREMENTS AND TAXES	
Chapter List	Search
Section I	Live animals; animal products
Chapter 01	LIVE ANIMALS
Chapter 02	MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL
Chapter 03	FISH AND CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES
Chapter 04	DAIRY PRODUCE; BIRDS' EGGS; NATURAL HONEY; EDIBLE PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Chapter 05	PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Section II	Vegetable products
Chapter 06	LIVE TREES AND OTHER PLANTS; BULBS, ROOTS AND THE LIKE; CUT FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE
Chapter 07	EDIBLE VEGETABLES AND CERTAIN ROOTS AND TUBERS
Chapter 08	EDIBLE FRUIT AND NUTS; PEEL OF CITRUS FRUIT OR MELONS
Chapter 09	COFFEE, TEA, MATÉ AND SPICES
Chapter 10	CEREALS
Chapter 11	PRODUCTS OF THE MILLING INDUSTRY; MALT; STARCHES; INULIN; WHEAT GLUTEN
Chapter 12	OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUITS; MISCELLANEOUS GRAINS, SEEDS AND FRUIT; INDUSTRIAL OR MEDICINAL PLANTS; STRAW AND FODDER

If you could not find the product code using either OPTION A or OPTION B, you may try OPTION C

- If you find the description for your product listed in one of the 21 sections, click on the appropriate chapter heading in the **Section** column on the left.
- A **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

OPTION C

- Request the code for your product via the "Binding Tariff Information" (BTI) service by following the instructions given in the web page:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/databases/ebti/index_en.htm

STEP 3**Select a country of origin**

You need to select a country of origin to use the **Requirements and Taxes** section of the website by choosing from the options available in the drop-down menu.

STEP 4**Select a destination country**

You also need to select a destination country (the Member State in the European Union to which the product will be exported) from the second drop-down menu box available. Click the **View** button to obtain the relevant **Requirement List**.

STEP 5**Read the Requirement List page**

The information in the **Requirement List** page is divided into four different categories with further divisions therein.

REQUIREMENTS AND TAXES			
Requirement List			
Product Code	08011900		
Origin Country	Brazil (br)		
Destination Country	Spain (excluding XC XL) (ES)		
Code	Product Description		
0801	Coconuts, Brazil nuts and cashew nuts, fresh or dried, whether or not shelled or peeled		
0801 11	-Coconuts		
0801 11	--Desiccated		
0801 19	--Other		
Specific requirements for 08011900		Internal Taxes	
<input type="checkbox"/> Health control of foodstuffs of non-animal origin	EU/ES	<input type="checkbox"/> VAT and other duties	ES
<input type="checkbox"/> Labelling for foodstuffs	EU/ES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Marketing requirements for seeds and plant propagating material	EU/ES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Plant health control	EU/ES		
<input type="checkbox"/> Products from organic production	EU/ES		
General Requirements for all products			
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial invoice	EU	<input type="checkbox"/> Customs Import Declaration (SAD)	EU
<input type="checkbox"/> Customs Value Declaration	EU	<input type="checkbox"/> Freight documents	EU
<input type="checkbox"/> Freight insurance	EU	<input type="checkbox"/> Packing list	EU
Overview			
<input type="checkbox"/> Overview of Import Procedures	EU/ES	<input type="checkbox"/> VAT	EU/ES
		<input type="checkbox"/> Excise	EU/ES
COPYRIGHT			

Note: At the bottom of the **Requirement List** page you will find a simplified version of the **Requirements & Taxes Input Form** which enables you to change the product, the country of origin, or the destination country without having to go back to the original input form page.

- **Specific Requirements**

Clicking on one of the sub-sections within the specific requirements category will open a new window providing detailed information as to the specific requirements for that particular product to enter the EU and the specific EU Member State selected in the destination country box.

Example: If the product to be exported to a EU Member State is a foodstuff, then **Labelling for foodstuffs** will appear within the category of **Specific requirements** for that product. Clicking on this requirement will open a new window providing the relevant labelling requirements for that particular product to enter the EU and any additional information for the particular EU Member State which has been selected as the destination country.

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Notes

- This document is only available in English.
- Direct access to the Official Journal is only possible for editions published after 1997.

Labelling for foodstuffs

All foodstuffs marketed in the European Union (EU) must comply with EU labelling rules, which aim at ensuring that consumers get all the essential information to make an informed choice while purchasing their foodstuffs.

Hence, the applicable labelling provisions are as follows:

- General rules on food labelling
- Specific provisions for certain groups of products:
 - Labelling of Genetically Modified (GM) food and Novel Food
 - Labelling of foodstuffs for particular nutritional purposes
 - Labelling of materials intended to come into contact with food
 - Labelling of particular foodstuffs

Besides these mandatory rules, there is also additional information that may be included by the manufacturers on a voluntary basis provided that it is accurate and does not mislead the consumer. For example, nutritional labelling is not obligatory unless a nutritional claim (e.g. "low fat", "high fibre") is made on the label or in advertising material. In this case, nutritional claims must comply with a standardised format, pursuant to Council Directive 90/496/EEC (OJ L-276 06/10/1990). Similarly, Council Regulation (EEC) 2092/91 (OJ L-208 24/07/1992) sets out rules governing the use of the organic label.

- **Internal Taxes**

The Internal Taxes category provides information as to the internal taxes (Value Added Tax and any other duties) applicable in the EU Member State selected for the particular product. **Excise** values will generally be calculated using the following formula: **[monetary unit] unitary amount / [taxable unit]** (where the symbol "/" should be read as "per each").

Example: How to calculate the excise (i.e. 754.77 Eur/h of pure alcohol)? The monetary unit is "Euro", the unitary amount is "754.77" and the taxable unit is "hectolitres of pure alcohol". Therefore, it should be interpreted as "754.77 Euro per each hectolitre of pure alcohol". Thus, 4 hectolitres of a liquor with a 50% alcohol content are equivalent to 2 hectolitres (= 4 x 50%) of pure alcohol, and would pay a tax of EUR 754.77 x 2 = EUR 1509.54.

- **General Requirements for all products**

The **General Requirements for all products** category is divided into six subsections: **Commercial invoice**, **Customs Value Declaration**, **Freight insurance**, **Customs Import Declaration (SAD)**, **Freight documents**, and **Packing list**.

Clicking on a subsection will open a new window providing detailed information on the selected category.

- **Overview of Import Procedures**

This category provides an overview of import procedures both at the EU level and for the particular Member State selected, and also the EU and Member State rules on VAT and excise duties.

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- This document is only available in English.
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European Union - Overview of Import Procedures

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7. [Food and Feed Safety and Marketing Standards](#)
8. [Public Health](#)
9. [Environment Protection](#)
10. [Product Safety](#)
11. [Technical Standardisation](#)
12. [Packaging](#)
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1. Product Classification in Tariff Nomenclatures

The correct classification of a particular product under a tariff code is the first step to obtain relevant information on it, such as:

- the level of duty rates and other applicable levies on import and export;
- whether certain measures such as anti-dumping apply;
- external trade statistics;
- import and export formalities, and other non-tariff requirements.

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IMPORT TARIFFS

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The **Import Tariffs** section enables users to get access to detailed information concerning import tariffs and other measures that apply to a particular product.

To obtain required information from this section, please follow the steps below:

STEP 1

Go to the Import Tariffs Input Form

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/taric/TaricServlet?languageId=EN>

The screenshot shows the 'IMPORT TARIFFS' section of a web application. It includes a header with the title 'IMPORT TARIFFS' and a sub-header stating 'This section provides information to take full advantage of the EU's preferential trade regimes.' Below this is an 'Input Form' section. The form contains three main input areas: 'Enter a product code (2,4,6,8,10 digits)' with a text box and a 'Browse or Search' button; 'Select a country of origin' with a dropdown menu; and 'Select a simulation date' with three dropdown menus for day (10), month (April), and year (2006). A 'View' button is located at the bottom of the form.

STEP 2

Enter a product code

i) IF YOU KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE:

- Enter the product code in the **product code** box (note that you can choose to enter the relevant code in 2, 4, 6 or 8 digits).
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

ii) IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE

OPTION A

- Click on the 'Search' link (on the right side of the product code box). Enter your product description and click the Search button.
- If the product description is in the catalogue a **Search Results** page will open with a list of products and their respective codes.
- On the **Search Results** page click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product. A **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

If you could not find the product code using OPTION A, you may try OPTION B

OPTION B

- Click on the 'Browse' link on the Import Tariffs Input Form and the **Chapter List** page will open.

IMPORT TARIFFS	
Chapter List	Search
Section I	Live animals; animal products
Chapter 01	LIVE ANIMALS
Chapter 02	MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL
Chapter 03	FISH AND CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES
Chapter 04	DAIRY PRODUCE; BIRDS' EGGS; NATURAL HONEY; EDIBLE PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Chapter 05	PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Section II	Vegetable products
Chapter 06	LIVE TREES AND OTHER PLANTS; BULBS, ROOTS AND THE LIKE; CUT FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE
Chapter 07	EDIBLE VEGETABLES AND CERTAIN ROOTS AND TUBERS
Chapter 08	EDIBLE FRUIT AND NUTS; PEEL OF CITRUS FRUIT OR MELONS
Chapter 09	COFFEE, TEA, MATÉ AND SPICES
Chapter 10	CEREALS

If you could not find the product code using either OPTION A or OPTION B, you may try OPTION C

- If you find the description for your product listed in one of the 21 **sections**, click on the appropriate chapter heading in the Section column on the left.
- A **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to **STEP 3**.

OPTION C

- Request the code for your product via the "Binding Tariff Information" (BTI) service by following the instructions given in the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/databases/ebti/index_en.htm

STEP 3**Select a country of origin**

If you do not select a country of origin you will not be provided with any preferential tariff information – **GSP, ACP, free trade agreement** – and will only obtain the tariff that applies to all products irrespective of country of origin (**Erga omnes** tariff information).

STEP 4**Select a simulation date**

The simulation date is automatically set to the date on which the website is being used, but you can also select an earlier date as far back as 1 January 1998.

STEP 5**Click on “View”****STEP 6****Read the Import Tariff Results page**

The **Import Tariff Results** page will divide into either two or three tables.

IMPORT TARIFFS

Results

Product Code	1001100020
Country of origin	Erga omnes
Simulation date	April 30, 2007

Code	Product Description
1001	Wheat and meslin
1001 10	-Durum wheat
1001 10 00 12	--High quality durum wheat
1001 10 00 20	--Medium quality durum wheat
1001 10 00 30	--Low quality durum wheat

Origin	Add. Code	Measure Type	Tariff	Footnote	Regulation/ Decision
Erga omnes	2550	Third country duty	0 EUR/1000 kg		R0608600
Erga omnes	2551	Third country duty	0 EUR/1000 kg	TM396	R0608150
Erga omnes	2552	Third country duty	0 EUR/1000 kg	TM396	R0608150
Erga omnes		Entry into free circulation (prior surveillance)		CD020	R0313420

Add. Code	
2550	Imported by land, inland waterway or sea or imported by air.
2551	Imported by sea and arriving via the Atlantic Ocean or the Suezcanal with the port of unloading on the Mediterranean Sea
2552	Imported by sea and arriving via the Atlantic Ocean with the port of unloading in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, Finland or on the Atlantic Coast of the Iberian Peninsula

Source DG Taxation and Customs Union Taric

TABLE 1

- **Column 1** is the product **Code** column.
- **Column 2** is the Product **Description** column.

TABLE 2

Table 2 will appear directly below Table 1 and is divided into six columns:

- **Column 1** is the **Origin column**. Depending on the country of origin selected in the **Import Tariffs Input Form**, Column 1 will list information on the following:
 - > **Erga omnes**: This is the tariff that applies to all products irrespective of country of origin.
 - > **GSP**: This is the tariff that applies to a product benefiting from the EU's Generalised System of Preferences.
 - > **ACP**: This is the tariff that applies to a product benefiting from the **Cotonou Agreement**.
 - > **FTA**: The different free trade agreements are referred to in Column 1 by the name of the country e.g. Chile, Egypt, etc.

Note: If a country is eligible for more than one preferential trade arrangement, the operator may choose the arrangement that is more beneficial. However, while the rules of origin of the different preferential arrangements are broadly similar, there can be significant differences. Operators must therefore always refer to the correct rules for the arrangements they intend to use.

- **Column 2** is the **Additional Code** column. If one or more codes appear in this column, the import tariff measure that appears in columns 3 and 4 will only apply with respect to the product that meets the criteria of the additional code. If there are additional codes a third table will appear directly below table 2 and will provide a brief explanation of the requisite criteria for the additional codes.
- **Column 3** is the **Measure Type** column.
- **Column 4** is the **Tariff** column and it provides the relevant duties.

Note: Additional duties also appear in this column.

The possible types of additional duties are:

- > **EA**: agricultural component
- > **ADSZ**: additional duty on sugar contents;
- > **ADFM**: additional duty on flour contents;
- > **EAR**: reduced agricultural component;
- > **ADSZR**: reduced additional duty on sugar contents;
- > **ADFMR**: reduced additional duty on flour contents.

If any of the above acronyms is present in **Column 4**, this means there are additional duties to pay. For example, a duty such as:

9 % + EA(1) MAX 18.7 +ADSZ(1)

should be read as:

[9 % import tariff + agricultural component(1)], limited to a maximum of [18.7 % + ADSZ additional duty on sugar contents(1)]

To calculate the complete rate of duty, it is necessary to determine the amount of agricultural component (**EA**) and additional duty on sugar contents (**ADSZ**). This means that to calculate the complete rate of duty, you must know the composition of the product in Milk fat, Milk proteins Starch/Glucose Sucrose/Invert sugar/Isoglucose.

Determining the additional duties to pay

To determine the additional duties to pay, for example **EA**, **ADSZ**:

STEP 1:

Go to the TARIC home page, at the following address:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/dds/en/tarhome.htm

Select one of the two available options to search for tariff information (either through a product code or description). Once you have entered the product code and country of origin, click on the 'Duty rates' button. In the results page, click on the 'Meursing code' button and this will open an "ingredient window".

STEP 2:

Enter the composition of the goods entered (percentage of milk fat, milk proteins, starch...) in the ingredient window. Once the composition is entered in the corresponding fields, click on the equal sign (=) to display the additional duties applicable.

STEP 3:

All recognised compositions of the different ingredients (milk fat...) are linked to an additional code. This code starts with a "7". If the code is already known, you can enter its last 3 digits in the field "enter your additional code" of the ingredient window. For example, if the additional code is 7605, enter 605 in the field.

It is mandatory to mention the additional code in the customs declaration. This is the way to declare in customs the composition of the product, and therefore to allow the customs to compute the additional duties due.

If the acronyms in the measure are **EA**, **ADSZ**, or **ADFM**, this means that the additional duties are full (i.e. not reduced).

If the acronyms in the measure are EAR, ADSZR, or ADFMR, this means that the additional duties are reduced in the context of a customs declaration where a preference is granted.

It should be noted that the fact that a declaration is preferential does not mean per se that the additional duties are reduced. There can be preferential declarations with full additional duties. However, there cannot be non-preferential declarations (these are declarations where the most favoured nation duty is granted) with reduced additional duties.

In the case of reduced additional duties, it is possible that more than one duty is displayed in the composition window. This means that there is more than one possible reduction of additional duty for this product. For example, for a declaration where a preferential quota and a simple preference are applicable. In such case, check the numbers between round brackets - like (1), (2) - that are printed behind the acronyms. The additional duties to apply are the ones with the number that matches the number given between round brackets in the duty rate.

- **Column 5** is the **FN (footnote)** column. If there is additional information it will appear in the form of a code (for example, CD020). Clicking on this code will open a window providing further relevant information.
- **Column 6** is the **Regulation/Decision** column. Clicking on the code in this column will open a window providing information in relation to the applicable EU measure. If the measure is after 1998, an **OJ** icon will appear. Clicking on the **OJ** icon will take you to the Official Journal of the European Communities in which the relevant measure is published.

TABLE 3

If there are **additional codes** a third table will appear directly below table 2 and will provide a brief explanation of the requisite criteria for the additional codes.

This section of the website provides information concerning the documents to be produced by an exporter in order to qualify for preferential duty treatment under the different trade regimes available for developing countries.

CUSTOMS DOCUMENTS

This section provides information concerning the documents to be produced in order to qualify for preferential duty treatment.

1. Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)

The EU's GSP grants either duty-free access or a tariff reduction for certain products imported from GSP beneficiary countries.

The EU's GSP is implemented in cycles of ten years. The present cycle covers the years 2006-2015. The GSP is implemented by Council Regulations. Council Regulation (EC) No 980/2005, applying a scheme of generalised tariff preferences, is valid from 1.1.2006 to 31.12.2008 and consists of the following three arrangements:

- a general arrangement, applicable to all of the beneficiary countries listed in Annex I to the regulation;
- a special **incentive** arrangement for sustainable development and good governance (the "GSP+"), accorded to fifteen of the beneficiary countries (published in Commission Decision 2005/924/EC of 21.12.2005) who meet certain criteria.
- a special arrangement, also known as the "Everything But Arms" initiative (or "EBA"), applicable to the fifty least developed countries.

New GSP Scheme Q&A – Questions & Answers

Documentary requirements under the GSP

For further explanations concerning the main features of the GSP, please consult **The GSP User's Guide**

For further explanations concerning the requirements which products covered by the GSP have to meet to be considered as originating in the exporting country, please consult **The Guide to the rules of origin**.

- **GSP** – Products originating in the beneficiary countries of the EU's GSP shall benefit from the preferential duty rates foreseen upon submission of either a Certificate of Origin Form A or, in specific cases, of an Invoice Declaration given by the exporter (see proofs of origin under the Generalised System of Preferences – <http://exporthelp.europa.eu/hdlinks/gsp.cfm> - which includes specimens of the required documentation).
- **ACP ("Cotonou") Agreement** – Products originating in the ACP States shall benefit from the preferential duty rates foreseen in the Cotonou Agreement upon submission of either a Movement Certificate EUR.1 or, in specific cases, of an Invoice Declaration given by the exporter (see proofs of origin under the ACP ("Cotonou") Agreement– <http://exporthelp.europa.eu/hdlinks/cotonou1.cfm> - which includes specimens of the required documentation).
- **FTAs** – The EU also has many free trade agreements (FTAs) with partners in the region (the central European countries, the Mediterranean countries) and beyond (Mexico, Chile). FTAs now increasingly involve provisions affecting non-tariff measures and regulatory issues such as provisions on trade facilitation and rule-making in areas such as investment, intellectual property, government procurement, technical standards and SPS issues.

4

RULES OF ORIGIN

This section of the website provides information on the conditions that need to be met for goods to qualify for advantageous tariff treatment under the GSP and ACP systems and the FTAs with the following countries: Chile, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Mexico, and South Africa. For all other FTAs, exporters are advised to visit the “list of arrangements” of DG Taxation and Customs Union (TAXUD):

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/customs_duties/rules_origin/preferential/article_779_en.htm

For a list of the trade arrangements which apply to particular countries, see:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/customs_duties/rules_origin/article_403_en.htm

To find relevant information in the **Rules of Origin** section, please follow the steps below:

STEP 1

Go to the Rules of Origin Input Form

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/rulesoo/inputform.jsp>

RULES OF ORIGIN

This section provides information concerning preferential origin rules. It lays down the specific conditions that need to be met if goods are to qualify for advantageous tariff treatment, otherwise the full duties are applicable.

Input Form

Select a regime

GSP Rules


Introductory Notes


Enter a product code
(2,4,6,8 digits)

View

View

More information

 For more information about rules of origin, please visit DG Taxation and Customs Union [introduction](#) and [FAQ](#).

 Please note that this section only covers Free Trade Agreements which are available on-line. For other Trade Agreements please visit the **"Arrangement list"** of DG Taxation and Customs Union.

STEP 2

Select a regime

Select the relevant regime (GSP, ACP, Chile, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Mexico or South Africa).

Note: If a country is eligible for more than one arrangement, the operator may choose whichever arrangement is more beneficial. However, while the rules of origin of the different preferential arrangements are broadly similar, there can be significant differences. Operators must therefore always refer to the correct rules for the arrangements they intend to use.

STEP 3**Enter a product code**

Enter the **product code** in the product code box (note that you can choose to enter the relevant code in 2, 4, 6 or 8 digits).

Note: If you do not know the product code you may try to obtain it by following the instructions contained in the previous sections of this guide on **Requirements and Taxes** or **Import Tariffs**.

A new page will open providing the relevant Rules of Origin.

Step 4**Read the Rules of Origin page**

RULES OF ORIGIN

GSP - Chapter12 - Detail

HS heading	Description of product	Working or processing, carried out on non-originating materials, which confers originating status
Chapter 12	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	Manufacture in which all the materials of Chapter 12 used are wholly obtained

How to read the rules of origin?

- The first two columns in the list describe the product obtained. The first column gives the heading number or chapter number used in the Harmonized System and the second column gives the description of goods used in that system for that heading or chapter. For each entry in the first two columns, a rule is specified in column 3 or 4. Where, in some cases, the entry in the first column is preceded by an "ex", this signifies that the rules in column 3 or 4 apply only to the part of that heading as described in column 2.
- Where several heading numbers are grouped together in column 1 or a chapter number is given and the description of products in column 2 is therefore given in general terms, the adjacent rules in column 3 or 4 apply to all products which, under the Harmonized System, are classified in headings of the chapter or in any of the headings grouped together in column 1.
- Where there are different rules in the list applying to different products within a heading, each indent contains the description of that part of the heading covered by the adjacent rules in column 3 or 4.
- Where, for an entry in the first two columns, a rule is specified in both columns 3 and 4, the exporter may opt, as an alternative, to apply either the rule set out in column 3 or that set out in column 4. If no origin rule is given in column 4, the rule set out in column 3 is to be applied.

Source **EUR-Lex**

Important note:

This is the list of working or processing operations which non-originating goods must undergo in order to acquire originating status. However, they do not apply in all cases: cumulation of origin may apply, while wholly obtained (e.g. grown) goods already have the origin of that country. Other conditions including direct transport to the Community also apply. Please click [here](#) for more detailed information on these rules of origin.

A full explanation of GSP rules of origin is given in the Commission's user guide on the subject at: http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/publications/info_docs/customs/index_en.htm

The first two columns in the list describe the product obtained. The first column gives the heading number or chapter number used in the Harmonised System and the second column gives the description of the goods used in that system for that heading or chapter. For each entry in the first two columns, a rule is specified in column 3 or 4. Where, in some cases, the entry in the first column is preceded by an "ex", this signifies that the rules in column 3 or 4 apply only to the part of that heading as described in column 2.

Where several heading numbers are grouped together in column 1 or a chapter number is given and the description of products in column 2 is therefore given in general terms, the adjacent rules in column 3 or 4 apply to all products which, under the Harmonised System, are classified in headings of the chapter or in any of the headings grouped together in column 1.

Where there are different rules in the list applying to different products within a heading, each indent contains the description of that part of the heading covered by the adjacent rules in column 3 or 4.

Where, for an entry in the first two columns, a rule is specified in both columns 3 and 4, the exporter may opt, as an alternative, to apply either the rule set out in column 3 or that set out in column 4. If no origin rule is given in column 4, the rule set out in column 3 is to be applied.

Note: This is the list of working or processing operations which non-originating goods must undergo in order to acquire originating status. However, they do not apply in all cases: cumulation of origin may apply, while wholly obtained (e.g. grown) goods already have the origin of that country. Other conditions including direct transport to the Community also apply.

Please see the following websites for more detailed information:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/customs_duties/rules_origin/introduction/index_en.htm

or

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/rulesoo/show.jsp?cmd=note®ime=gsp&chapterNumber>

5

TRADE STATISTICS

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This section provides detailed trade statistics covering imports and exports for the 27 EU Member States collectively and individually and also intra-EU trade. It is a very useful tool for exploring potential markets.

To obtain statistical information, please follow the steps described below.

STEP 1

Go to the Trade Statistics Input Form

<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/thdapp/comext/ComextServlet>

The screenshot shows the 'TRADE STATISTICS' input form. It includes a title bar 'TRADE STATISTICS' and a description: 'This section provides trade data (exports and imports) for the EU and its individual Member States.' Below this is an 'Input Form' section with the following fields:

- Enter a product code** (2,4,6,8 digits): A text input field with a 'Browse or Search.' button next to it.
- Select a reporting country**: A dropdown menu showing 'EUR27'.
- Select a partner country**: A dropdown menu showing 'All partners'.
- Select year(s)**: A list of years (2006, 2005, 2004) with up and down arrows.
- Select indicator(s)**: A list of indicators (Imports Value, Imports Quantity, Imports Sup. Qty, Exports Value) with up and down arrows.
- View**: A button at the bottom.

STEP 2

Enter a product code

i) IF YOU KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE:

- Enter the product code in the **product code** box (note that you can choose to enter the relevant code in 2, 4, 6 or 8 digits).
- Proceed to **Step 3**.

ii) IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE PRODUCT CODE:

OPTION A

- Click on the 'Search' link (on the right side of the product code box). Enter your product description and click the **Search** button.
- If the product description is in the catalogue a **Search Results** page will open with a list of products and their respective codes.
- On the **Search Results** page click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product and a **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to Step 3.

OPTION B

- Click on the 'Browse' link on the **Trade Statistics Input Form** and the **Chapter List** page will open.

If you could not find
the product code
using OPTION A,
you may try OPTION B

TRADE STATISTICS	
Chapter List	Search
Section I	Live animals; animal products
Chapter 01	LIVE ANIMALS
Chapter 02	MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL
Chapter 03	FISH AND CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES
Chapter 04	DAIRY PRODUCE; BIRDS' EGGS; NATURAL HONEY; EDIBLE PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Chapter 05	PRODUCTS OF ANIMAL ORIGIN, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Section II	Vegetable products
Chapter 06	LIVE TREES AND OTHER PLANTS; BULBS, ROOTS AND THE LIKE; CUT FLOWERS AND ORNAMENTAL FOLIAGE
Chapter 07	EDIBLE VEGETABLES AND CERTAIN ROOTS AND TUBERS
Chapter 08	EDIBLE FRUIT AND NUTS; PEEL OF CITRUS FRUIT OR MELONS
Chapter 09	COFFEE, TEA, MATÉ AND SPICES
Chapter 10	CEREALS
Chapter 11	PRODUCTS OF THE MILLING INDUSTRY; MALT; STARCHES; INULIN; WHEAT GLUTEN
Chapter 12	OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUITS; MISCELLANEOUS GRAINS, SEEDS AND FRUIT; INDUSTRIAL OR MEDICINAL PLANTS; STRAW AND FODDER
Chapter 13	LAC; GUMS, RESINS AND OTHER VEGETABLE SAPS AND EXTRACTS
Chapter 14	VEGETABLE PLAITING MATERIALS; VEGETABLE PRODUCTS NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INCLUDED
Section III	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes
Chapter 15	ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS AND THEIR CLEAVAGE PRODUCTS; PREPARED EDIBLE FATS; ANIMAL OR VEGETABLE WAXES
Section IV	Prepared foodstuffs; beverages, spirits and vinegar; tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes
Chapter 16	PREPARATIONS OF MEAT, OF FISH OR OF CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS OR OTHER AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES
Chapter 17	SUGARS AND SUGAR CONFECTIONERY

If you could not find the product code using either OPTION A or OPTION B, you may try OPTION C

- If you find the description for your product listed in one of the 21 sections, click on the appropriate chapter heading in the **Section** column on the left.
- A **Product List** page will open with more detailed product descriptions and their respective codes.
- Click on the code in the first column on the left for the appropriate product.
- Proceed to **Step 3**.

OPTION C

Request the code for your product via the “Binding Tariff Information” (BTI) service by following the instructions given in the web page:

http://ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/common/databases/ebti/index_en.htm

STEP 3

Select a Reporting Country

The **Select a reporting country** box is automatically configured to **EUR27**.

OPTION 1 – EUR27: The **EUR27** mode provides you with trade statistics for the whole of the EU (and all twenty-seven EU Member States individually).

OPTION 2 – EUR25: Selecting **EUR25** provides you with trade statistics for twenty-five EU Member States (the EU enlarged in 2007 from 25 to 27 Member States).

OPTION 3 – Selecting a specific reporting country provides you with the statistics for the EU Member State selected.

STEP 4

Select a Partner Country:

The **Select a partner country** box is automatically configured to **All partners**.

OPTION 1 – All Partners: Selecting this option provides you with the trade statistics for all countries.

OPTION 2 – Selecting a specific partner country provides you with the trade statistics for the specific partner country selected.

STEP 5

Select year(s)

In the **Select year(s)** box, you can choose:

OPTION 1 – To view the trade statistics for any individual year (as far back as 2000), click on the relevant year.

OPTION 2 – To view the trade statistics for more than one year at a time, click and highlight the relevant years while pressing the **Ctrl** or **Shift** buttons at the same time.

STEP 6**Select indicator(s)**

The Select indicator(s) box contains the following six categories:

- **Imports Value:** Highlighting this category will provide the import value in thousands of euros of a particular product from the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country) into the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State).
- **Imports Quantity:** Highlighting this category will provide the import quantity in thousands of kilos of a particular product from the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country) into the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State).
- **Imports Supplementary Quantity:** Highlighting this category will provide the import supplement quantity, if applicable, per unit of a particular product from the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country) into the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State). The supplementary quantity represents for example litres, number of parts or square metres, or any other units other than the net mass of the goods, which indicates quantity and is usually collected in kilogrammes.
- **Exports Value:** Highlighting this category will provide the export value in thousands of euros of a particular product from the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State) into the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country).
- **Exports Quantity:** Highlighting this category will provide the export quantity in thousands of kilos of a particular product from the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State) into the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country).
- **Exports Supplementary Quantity:** Highlighting this category will provide the export supplement quantity, if applicable, per unit of a particular product from the partner country selected (all partners or a specific partner country) into the reporting country selected (EUR27, EUR25 or a specific EU Member State). The supplementary quantity represents for example litres, number of parts or square metres, or any other units other than the net mass of the goods, which indicates quantity and is usually collected in kilogrammes.

STEP 7

Read the Trade Statistics Results page

The layout of the trade statistics page varies depending on the selections that were made in the **Trade Statistics Input Form**.

Note: At the bottom of the page there is a simplified format of the **Trade Statistics Input Form** which enables you to change the indicators, the reporter country, the partner country, and the product without having to go back to the original input form page.

Viewing total figures: To view the total export/import figures for all products from a selected country type **00** in the product code box of the simplified input form and select the country.

Obtaining the price per kilo for imports/exports: To obtain the price per kilo for imports or exports divide the figure in the imports or exports value column by the appropriate figure in the imports or exports quantity column. For example if the **import value** for product X from country X is 3.300 Euros and the **import quantity** is 0.3 tonnes (300 kg) then dividing 3.300 by 300 gives you a kilo price of 11 euros.

Downloading trade statistics data: Transferring the data in the **Trade Statistics Results** page into a spreadsheet will allow you to perform calculations and make other analysis using the data requested. There are two possible options to transferring the data:

OPTION A

At the top of the **Results** page click on the 'TAB' or 'XLS' links to download the results respectively into the .tab or .xls (Microsoft Excel) formats.

OPTION B

STEP 1: Click on the trade statistics table that you want to transfer to an Excel Sheet.

STEP 2: Click on the right mouse button to display a menu.

STEP 3: Select the menu option: "Export to Microsoft Excel".

This will open an excel sheet and transfer the trade statistics data from the trade statistics table of the Export Helpdesk into an Excel Sheet.

The **Market Place** (<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/hdmarket>) is a platform to facilitate exchanges between exporters in Developing Countries and EU importers. If you are interested in exporting your products to the EU-market you may find it useful to place your offers and/or requests for products in the market place section.

[Homepage](#) | [Trade Offers](#) | [Trade Requests](#)

[Register](#) | [Log in](#) | [Lost password?](#)
[User guide](#)

MARKET PLACE

The Market Place is a platform where exporters in developing countries can establish contacts with importers from the EU. Before posting your information, we invite you to carefully read the [User Guide](#).

MARKET PLACE SEARCH

☒ Offers
☐ Requests

Keyword:
 Section:
 Country:

MARKET PLACE OFFERS AND DEMANDS, BY SECTION		
01 - Live Animals, Animal Products	Offers (9)	Requests (1)
02 - Vegetable Products	Offers (68)	Requests (7)
03 - Animal/ Vegetable Fats, Oils, Waxes	Offers (11)	Requests (3)
04 - Prepared Foodstuffs; Beverages...	Offers (61)	Requests (7)
05 - Mineral products	Offers (6)	Requests (1)
06 - Chemicals & Allied Industries	Offers (28)	Requests (3)
07 - Plastics, Rubbers	Offers (21)	Requests (3)
08 - Raw Hides, Skins, Leather, Furs	Offers (15)	Requests (1)
09 - Wood & Wood Charcoal, Cork ...	Offers (24)	Requests (6)
10 - Wood Pulp, Paper, Paperboard	Offers (1)	Requests (3)
11 - Textiles & Textile Articles	Offers (47)	Requests (22)
12 - Footwear, Headgear, Umbrellas...	Offers (3)	Requests (2)
13 - Stone, Plaster, Cement, Ceramic...	Offers (23)	Requests (3)
14 - Pearls, Precious Stones, Imitations...	Offers (9)	Requests (2)
15 - Base Metals	Offers (5)	Requests (3)
16 - Machinery & Mechanical, Electrical...	Offers (23)	Requests (1)
17 - Vehicles, Aircraft, Transportation Equipment	Offers (9)	Requests (3)
18 - Optical, Photographic, Measuring...	-	Requests (1)
20 - Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	Offers (38)	Requests (5)

HOW TO SEARCH THROUGH TRADE OFFERS AND REQUESTS

There are several ways to browse the trade offers and requests:

- On the first page of the **Market Place**, you will see a small form called **Market Place Search**. You can use this form. It will show you a list of trade offers or requests corresponding to the criteria selected.
- On the first page of the **Market Place**, you will also see a list of sections, offers and requests. Clickings on an 'Offers' or a 'Requests' link next to a section name will show you a list of offers or requests related to this section. Clicking on the section name itself will display the complete denomination of this section.
- You can click on 'Trade offers' or 'Trade requests' links in the Market Place Menu. This will show you a list of all current offers or requests from all sections.

Note: You can use the clickable column titles to sort the results list. To see an offer or request detail, click on its title.

A small window will open with the details. You can print this window for further use by clicking on the 'Print' link.

HOW TO POST A TRADE OFFER OR TRADE REQUEST

Before posting your information, we invite you to carefully read the Market Place's User Guide available in this section.

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LINKS

Make direct contact with the customs authorities of the individual Member States of interest, organisations involved in promoting imports from developing countries and EU importers' associations at the EU and at Member State level. We will be very happy to consider any suggestions for improvements or additions to the **Links** section (<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/hdlinks/links.cfm>).

LINKS

This section provides information concerning EU and Member State authorities and international organisations involved in trade operations and trade promotion.
Please choose a link category by clicking on it.

LINKS TO CUSTOMS WEBSITES



- EU - Institutions
- Candidate Countries for EU Accession
- International Organisations

LINKS TO TRADE AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- EU 25 Member States
- EU level
- International level

LINKS TO ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY

- EU Member States
- EC
- Others



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CONTACT

MAILBOX

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The **Contact mailbox** (<http://exporthelp.europa.eu/hdinforequest>) enables developing country exporters to lodge detailed questions concerning real life situations. Questions can be sent in any of the four languages of the Export Helpdesk (English, French, Portuguese or Spanish) and, *a priori*, the **Export Helpdesk Team** aims to answer queries/questions within a fifteen working-day period. Please note that this timeline is subject to variation depending on the complexity of the question.

CONTACT FORM

Please fill in the form.
Mandatory fields are marked with an *.

Title*
☐ Ms ☐ Mrs ☐ Mr

Category*
Academic Authority

First Name*

Last Name*

E-mail address*

Country of residence*
Afghanistan

Address

Subject*
Environment

Question*

1000 Characters Left

Submit

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